

Group IV = claims 18-26, drawn to a nucleic acid that hybridizes to the complement of Seq. ID Nos. 1 or 3,

Group V = claims 27-35, drawn to a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid of Group IV,

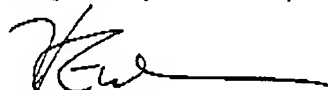
Group VI = claims 36-39, drawn to an antibody that selectively binds to a polypeptide of Seq. ID No. 4,

Group VII = claims 40-43, drawn to an antibody that selectively binds to a polypeptide of Seq. ID Nos. 1 or 3, and

Group VIII = claims 44-45, drawn to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from Seq. ID Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.

Applicant hereby elects for present prosecution the claims of Group I, claims 1-5 and 11-14, drawn to a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO. 4.

Respectfully submitted,

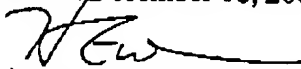


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#### CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited by facsimile transmission to the Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300 on December 18, 2006.

Dated: December 18, 2006



Howard M. Eisenberg